

Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial
Veterans Hospital
DONATION OPPORTUNITIES
FY 2012

There is a certain satisfaction which comes from giving unselfishly so that others' lives might be happier. Here at the Bedford VA Hospital, contributions by donors have been invaluable in perpetuating the high quality of care to which our patients are entitled.

With the structure of today's economy and increasing demands on time, it is especially important to remember the hospitalized Veterans at this facility. Information has been provided on the following pages regarding some of the special needs and interests of our patients.

All monetary and tangible donations **need** to be coordinated in advance through the Voluntary Service Office. Tangible donations, in particular, **need** to be coordinated in advance.

Starting January 1, 2012 we will NO LONGER accept used clothing.

**Chief, Voluntary Service (135)
Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital
200 Springs Road
Bedford, MA 01730
Phone (781) 687-2352 or 687-3076
www.bedford.va.gov/giving**

Also, if you would like more information on any of the donation suggestions listed, please feel free to contact me. I would be happy to meet with individuals or groups to discuss current patient needs.

Checks should be made payable to "Bedford VA Hospital" for all monetary donations. Please specify the account you wish to support in the lower left-hand corner of the check and/or in an attached note. Voluntary Service will acknowledge your donation in writing. **Please include any special instructions for acknowledgement at the time of donation. Memorial donations will be acknowledged to the donor and the next of kin.**

Donors help to make it possible for our hospitalized veterans to enjoy a better quality of life by supporting the numerous patient care programs provided at this VA Hospital. Thank you for your concern and interest for our patients at Bedford.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH DOOLEY
Chief, Voluntary Service

PATIENT WISH LIST

PLEASE NO TRAVEL SIZE HYGIENE PRODUCTS

We no longer need Afghans, books, cell phones, toothbrushes, razors, VCR tapes, or playing cards

We do not accept medical equipment or used electronics.

DONATIONS OF USED CLOTHING WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED

*** GENERAL NEEDS ***

- Craft supplies, crayons, colored pencils, markers, coloring books, and drawing paper
- Canteen Coupon Books; these are available for purchase in \$1.00 denominations at the Veterans Canteen Service. Call ahead to arrange for purchase 781-687-2413. Checks payable to: Veterans Canteen Service.
- Books on CD
- CD/Radio players, portable CD players, music
- Men's clothing (Large, XL, & XXL); **NEW** Sweatpants/Sweatshirt outfits. Suitcases or large carry all/overnight bags for veterans who are being discharged. Please check with the Clothing Room (781-687-2397) for prior approval of donation of these items.
- 30 or 60 minute telephone calling cards

*** PERSONAL COMFORT ITEMS ***

Generic: Deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, denture cleaner, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, powder

Men: Electric razors (rechargeable, **(NEW ONLY)**), electric pre-shave lotion, aftershave lotion, shaving cream **NEW** clothing; white socks, underwear, sweaters, cotton sweatshirts, washable slippers, sneakers with velcro laces

Women: Hand and body lotion, hair dryers, hair brushes, **NEW** clothing; knee socks, underwear, washable sweaters, sweatpants, sweatshirts jogging or warm up suits, washable slippers

*** SEASONAL ITEMS ***

- **Fall/Winter items** – Both men and women; winter jackets, fleece jackets, winter hats, gloves, sweaters, sweatshirts, sweatpants, (medium, large, extra large and XX large sizes)
- **Spring/Summer items** – Both men and women; spring jackets/windbreakers, jeans, trousers (Dockers), baseball hats, belts, colored T-shirts, Polo Shirts, walking shorts, sneakers

*** VA VOLUNTARY SERVICE COMMITTEE SPECIAL PROJECTS ***

Our local VAVS Committee undertakes special projects on a regular basis. They have provided a low floor recreational vehicle "Mini-Train", special Hospital beds, a Health Information Kiosk, Wheelchair Bus and Satellite Bedside Radio Program for our hospitalized veterans.

Please contact Voluntary Service to inquire about the Committee's current project. The Committee will also be sponsoring a group of Veterans to participate in the VA's Golden Age Games which is conducted in the summer of every year.

For information on any of our VA Voluntary Service programs or projects please contact: Linda Mitchell (781-687-2352), Deborah Murchie (781-687-2422), Sarah Slagle (781-687-3076) or Joe Dooley (781-687-3074) in the Voluntary Service office.

DONATED PATIENT ACCOUNTS

- (9001) DONATED GENERAL PURPOSE:** This fund, through a variety of means, provides for the general comfort, health and well being of patients. Donations to the General Post Fund allow us the greatest flexibility in fulfilling patient's needs.

- (9003) NATIONAL REHABILITATION SPECIAL EVENTS:** This fund will be used for travel expenses, lodging, and meals for veterans attending any of the following events: National Veterans Golden Age Games, National Veterans Wheelchair Games, National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic and the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival.

- (9006) RECREATION EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES:** Numerous supplies and accessories are needed for Recreation Service special events and therapeutic on-ward activities. The fund also provides general equipment to patients such as card tables, board games, etc. for their diversional enjoyment.

- (9007) CHAPEL RENOVATION:** Contributions are continually needed in order to enhance the beauty and sanctity of the Chapel.

- (9015) WOMEN VETERANS:** Donations support goods for events which honor special contributions made by women veterans. In addition, the funds sponsor holiday distributions and helps meet women veterans' special needs.

- (9016) GREENHOUSE/VETERANS COMPUTER CENTER:** Patients in the horticulture program cultivate plants from seedlings and learn greenhouse techniques. The Veterans

Computer Center provides training in the use of a computer, internet skills and refurbishes equipment for the use by veterans throughout the facility. Funds are used to maintain these excellent programs.

- (9018) HOMELESS VETERANS DOMICILIARY:** This fund supports patient initiatives on the Homeless Veterans Domiciliary. Monthly community dinners, MBTA passes for job interviews and basic subsistence items can be purchased for homeless veterans hospitalized on the Domiciliary through donations to this fund.

- (9021) VETERANS COMMUNITY CARE CENTER (VCCC):** The VCCC in Lowell, MA provides an alternative to hospitalization for many geriatric and psychiatric patients. Funds are needed to support a variety of excellent recreational programs as well as occupational and vocational therapy activities.

- (9028) PATIENT WELFARE:** This fund assists patients with special needs that "normal" donation channels are not able to accommodate. Social Work Service carefully screens applicants to ensure that funds are issued to those veterans truly in need.

- (9045) 62AB ALZHEIMER'S UNIT:** Funds used to provide veterans on this unit personal comfort items, recreational parties and for the general benefit of the veterans on this unit (i.e. food for a party, live entertainment, etc.).

- (9046) 62CD ALZHEIMER'S UNIT:** Funds used to provide veterans on this unit personal comfort items, recreational parties and for the general benefit of the veterans on this unit (i.e. food for a party, live entertainment, etc.).

- (9056) OIF/OEF:** This account is used to provide Information/Welcome packages to returning Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom veterans and their family members. The information packet would contain information about the VA Hospital and may contain items such as phone cards, gift certificates to local businesses (i.e. McDonald's or Friendly's restaurants) and other items to make their transition to civilian life easier.

WARD 4A/B WISH LIST (Community Living Center)
Contact Person: Jennifer.Jolly@va.gov 781-687-2452

1. **Monthly Party on Ward**
Potential Times: 4th Friday or any Thursday, Saturday or Sunday at 2:00 p.m. for one hour.
Need: Entertainment, Music, Magic, Comedy, or other
2. **Monthly Happy Hour Program**
Potential times: 1 Sunday per month at 2:00pm
Need: Entertainment
Even Bigger Need: Volunteers spending one-on-one time with veterans to assist with programming and socializing.
3. **Garden Group**
Potential Times: summer, TBA
Need: Someone with an interest and knowledge of horticulture; assist with residents who are interested and to maintain victory garden.
4. **Cooking Group**
Time: 4th Wednesday at 2:00 pm
Need: Various food items to cook, assistance with residents
5. **Trips to Canteen and Campus Store**
Time: Weekly, Mornings 9:00am – 12:00pm
Need: Assistance
6. **1 on 1 Visit**
Potential Times: Any
Need: Work with residents writing letters bring residents outside, to the Canteen, or playing games.
7. **Items Needed:**
 - CD/Radios with music
 - Arts & Crafts Supplies, Construction Paper
 - Country western music/Music from the 40s, 50s and 60s
 - Piano tuning
 - Coffee-ground
 - Black Picture frames all sizes-NO GLASS
 - Staunton Chess Pieces and LARGE PIECE puzzles from White Mt. Puzzles Inc.
 - Wii Games and connection wires

WARD 4C/D WISH LIST (Community Living Center)

Contact Person: Leah.Sullivan2@va.gov 781-687-3237

1. **1 on 1 Visit**
Potential Times: any
Need: work with residents writing letters, going outside, going to the Canteen, playing games, painting nails, reading, playing cards, checkers, going to the library etc.
2. **Monthly Party**
Potential Times: Monday or Friday afternoons
Need: entertainment, musical or other, ice cream or other food items depending on the holiday
3. **Trips**
Time: 1st and 4th Wednesday 11am-4pm or 1-4pm
Need: assistance with residents who need it
4. **Ladies Club**
Time: 2nd, 3rd or 4th Thursday of the month
Need: pleasant conversation, doing residents nails, no fear of breaking out into spontaneous singing
5. **Bingo**
Potential Times: Tuesday or Thursday afternoons from 2-3:30pm
Need: 1-6 volunteers to assist residents with cards
6. **Monthly Happy Hour Program**
Potential Times: 1 Sunday per month at 3:00pm
Need: Refreshments
Even Bigger Need: entertainment
7. **Trips to Canteen and Campus Store**
Time: Weekly, Mornings 9:00am-12:00 pm
Need: Assistance
8. **Garden Group**
Potential Times: summer, TBA
Need: someone with an interest and knowledge of horticulture; assistance with residents who need it
9. **Assistance during the month decorating the unit**
10. **Assistance at quarterly special themed meals**

11. **Entertainment, entertainment, entertainment. You have a special talent or hobby that you are willing to teach to our residents, please contact us to make an appointment.**
12. **Financial support for monthly musical entertainment, dance performances, magic programs, comedians, educational animal programs.**
13. **Monthly birthday cards and/or presents for the residents born that month; something to make their day special.**
 - CD Players/Radios
 - Arts & Crafts Supplies, Construction Paper
 - Country Western/Pop Standards/Show Tunes CDs
 - Piano Tuning
 - Coffee-Ground
 - Black Picture Frames all sizes
 - Staunton Chess Pieces
 - Puzzles from White Mt. Puzzle Inc.
 - Gift cards; Christmas Tree Shop, Michael's AC Moore's
 - Tableclothes (12+) for formal events in the dining room (rectangle 8' and round)

WARD 2B WISH LIST (Community Living Center)

Contact Person: Gina.Bazzari@va.gov 781-687-2717

1. **Garden Group**
Potential times: summer, any mornings
Need: assistance with residents, interest in horticulture
2. **Monthly Music**
Potential Times: any afternoon
Need: entertainment, ice cream
3. **Birthday Party**
Potential Times: any afternoon
Need: Assistance getting residents to group; 1 on 1 help for residents who need it, entertainment, ice cream and cake
4. **1 on 1 Visit**
Potential Times: any morning
Need: visit to the canteen in the mornings
5. **Games**
Time: any time
Need: play cards, cribbage and checkers
6. **Pet Therapy**
Time: Flexible Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday
Need: pets (Please note: ALL pets must be cleared through Pet Therapy Program.
Contact: Nancy Rothstein 781-687-3362
7. **Decorations (must be fire retardant)**
Potential Time: any
Need: suggestions, wreaths, table clothes, and centerpieces for Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, spring and/or Patriotic theme
8. **Special Luncheons**
Potential time: 2-3 times a year dates variable
Need: Sponsor program and volunteers to help serve food to the veterans
9. **Other items needed:**
 - Sweatpants and Sweatshirts
 - Picture frames for family photos (no glass)
 - Wii controls
 - Wii sport games

- Music CD' of the 40' or 50's
- FM radio with head phones
- Gift cards; Christmas Tree Shop, Michael's, AC Moore's
- Old movies, comedy or westerns on DVD (ORIGINALS ONLY PLEASE!)
- Trivia games for the elderly
- Gift cards; Michael's and Stop and Shop- *to support the monthly centerpiece project*

VA Supported Housing (VASH) Team

Contact Person: Kathryn Cochrane, Kathryn.Cochrane@va.gov 781-687-2997

Items Needed:

- Movie passes
- Bowling passes
- Deep Sea Fishing Trip
- Passes to the Peabody Essex Museum
- Passes to Museums in MA
- Gift certificates for dinner out

Ward 7A Wish List (Domiciliary)

Contact Person: Larry Guertin, Larry.Guertin@va.gov 781-687-2726

Items Needed:

- 42" Hospital grade Flat Screen TV
- Blue Ray DVD Players

WARD 78C WISH LIST (Geriatric Evaluation)

Contact Person: Felicia.Hall3@va.gov – Recreation Therapist 781-687-3043

1. 1 on 1 Visits

Time: Any

Need: Take residents outside for some fresh air, canteen visits, card games, rummy, poker, etc.

2. Monthly Parties

Times: 1 afternoon per month, any day

Need: Entertainment, music, dancing, songs/instrument playing, pizza and soda parties

3. Birthday Party

Potential time: Flexible on the time, 1x per month

Need: Ice cream and cake; 1 on 1 help for residents who need it

4. Pet Therapy

Potential time: Volunteer to visit 1 to 3 times a month on the Unit

Need: pets (Please note: ALL pets must be cleared through Pet Therapy Program)

Contact: Glen Hevy 781-687-3053

5. Decorations (must be fire retardant)

Potential Time: any; for all seasons

Need: seasonal table clothes, and centerpieces, colorful construction and decorative paper for seasonal bulletin board background, window cling-ons/stickers

6. Cooking Group

Time: Monday-Friday after 10am

Need: Various food items to cook in toaster oven and/or microwave, assistance with residents

7. Items Needed:

- Frozen foods to cook in mini oven; cookies, rolls, pizza bagels etc.
- Bread for automatic bread maker
- DVD movies (newer releases)
- CDs-country western, classic rock
- Portable CD players for bedside
- Movie tickets for community trips

WARD 78G WISH LIST (Mental Health)

Contact Person: Doreen.Perry@va.gov - Nurse Manager 781-687-3235

1. **Pizza Party**
Potential Times: 2nd Friday at 2:00pm
Need: Pizza
2. **Movie Night**
Potential Times: TBA
Need: popcorn, chips, soda
3. **Game Night**
Times: TBA
Need: interest in playing table games or running tournaments; 1 on 1 help for residents who need it
4. **Items Needed:**
 - Art projects including painting and sketch kits without sharp objects
 - Wii games
 - Wii controllers
 - Board games (*no checkers, chess or cribbage*)
 - New DVD's
 - Markers, crayons, colored pencils and drawing paper

WARD 6B WISH LIST (Mental Health)

Contact Person: Joseph.Grimard@va.gov 781-687-2049

1. Holiday Event Sponsor

Potential Time: July 4, Veterans Day and Holiday Season

Need: Sponsor a meal to be held on the Unit

2. Super Bowl Party Sponsor

Potential Time: Super Bowl Sunday

Need: Refreshments

3. Monthly Birthday Party Sponsor

Potential Time: flexible

Need: cake and ice cream

4. Items needed:

- Wii Games
- 4 Wii controllers
- Dry Erase Board with markers and erasers (with stand)
- Board Games; Trivial Pursuit , Scattagories, Checkers, Chess etc.
- Art Supplies; drawing paper, crayons, oil pastels, colored pencils, markers and coloring books
- Gift cards-Dunkin Donuts, McDonalds, CVS, restaurant cards
- 2-Volleyballs
- Men's exercise shorts-Size medium, large and XL
- Men's swim trunks-Size medium, large and XL
- Swim goggles
- Men's exercise t-shirts-Size medium, large and XL
- Men's socks (white)
- Radio System for the gym

WARD GRECC WISH LIST

(Alzheimer's Units)

Contact Person: Nadene Landry, Nadene.landry@va.gov 781-687-3199

- **1 on 1 visits:**
Potential Time: any
Need: 1:1 camaraderie for residents could be: going outside, going to the Canteen, playing games, cards, going to the library, putting on music CD's in resident's rooms, rosary group, reading, etc.
- **Ladies Lunch/Tea:**
Potential Time: Flexible
Need: pleasant conversation, "girl talk", nails care, etc.
- **Men's Group:**
Potential Time: Flexible
Need: good conversation, watch/discuss sports, cars, "guy" talk" etc.
- **Music Events:**
Potential Time: Flexible
Need: Christmas caroling, any visits from music groups.
- **Monthly theme parties:**
Times: 1 afternoon per month, any day except the 3rd Friday
Need: Entertainment, cake, ice cream

Items Needed:

- Baking supplies: MIXES
- Table cloths: solid colored fabric
- Winter clothes: mittens
- Coffee Table Books- with large, bright pictures (Nature, cars sports, travel, history, art)
- Trivia books
- CD's-patriotic/ 1930's/1940's/1950's
- Beach balls
- Springbok Alzheimer's Puzzles: large pieces: <http://www.springbok-puzzles.com/category/alzheimers-puzzles>
- Art Supplies:
 - Markers-Crayola
 - Large Handle/easy grip paintbrushes
 - Foam brushes
 - Acrylic paints (all colors)
 - Canvas—either pre-stretched or large roll with stretcher bars
 - Bristol Board paper
 - 2X DVD/VCR combo players

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are a wide variety of Volunteer Opportunities available at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital. Positions are available to suit your individual interests.

Assignments are available during the day, evenings and weekends.

A few examples of volunteer assignments are:

- Information Desk Volunteer
- Coffee Program Volunteer
- Volunteer Drivers (in Government Vehicles) transporting veterans to and from the facility
- Adopt-a-Veteran (one on one with a hospitalized veteran)
- Unit Volunteer on various in-patient wards
- Adopt-a-Ward Program (sponsor of recreation activities on various in-patient units)
- Large Group Recreation Assistant
- Parking Lot shuttle Drivers
- MyHealthe-vet Volunteer (computer access needed)
- Bibliotherapy Assistant (reading to Veterans in a group setting)
- Pet therapy Volunteer
- Off Station Trip Assistant
- Hospital education Volunteer
- Chess activity coordinator

For more information please review our website...

www.bedford.va.gov/giving